



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Award and Acceptance Letter

April 28, 2021

Project: **VermiCULTure**

Dear **Lavanya Upadhyaya**,

On behalf of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), we would like to thank you for initiating a project that improves the sustainability of our campus. SSC is pleased to inform you that your project will receive **\$10,000.00** in grant funding.

In order to remain eligible for this award, you must agree to the following conditions:

1. The project must be completed within two years. A final report of all work completed should be provided to the SSC Assistant Director by **May 14, 2023**.
2. Project status updates and detailed account statements must be provided at the end of each semester, in the method requested, until the project is completed.
3. The Contact Person will be individually responsible for all official communication and the execution of this agreement.
4. The awardee will take the appropriate steps to create a CFOP with OBFS UAFR University Accounting Services. The CFOP provided for this award shall strictly be used for the money awarded in this proposal.
5. Any substantial modifications to project scope, budget, or timeline must first be approved by SSC. These requests must be submitted in a formal letter to the Chair and the Assistant Director.
6. All projects will be expected to follow campus policies and procedures as well as any applicable State and Federal laws.
7. SSC reserves the right to revoke funding if the project does not comply with the terms and conditions outlined in this letter.
8. Any press releases or educational/promotional materials involving the project should acknowledge SSC funding.
9. Any signage involving the project or events surrounding this project should include SSC's logo and/or a statement of which fee funded the project. Projects must coordinate with SSC to ensure promotion appropriately highlights the SSC's contributions to the project.

If you agree to the terms and conditions for the funding, please sign on the designated line at the bottom of this letter. If you have any questions regarding these requirements please contact the SSC, at sustainability-committee@illinois.edu. You will be notified when the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs officially approves this project. Again, thank you for your interest in improving the sustainability of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We look forward to working with you in the future.



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

SSC Signatories

Joseph Edwards, Chair
Student Sustainability Committee

Awardee Signatory

Lavanya Upadhyaya
Applicant

**Faculty or Staff Project Advisor
(for Student-Led Projects)**

Eric Green
Faculty/Staff Project Advisor

iSEE Signatory

Dr. Madhu Khanna, Director
Institute for Sustainability, Energy & Environment

Student Affairs Signatory

Dr. Danita Brown Young, Vice Chancellor
Division of Student Affairs



Project Information

Project: vermiCULTure

Funding Source:

☐ Cleaner Energy Technologies Fee (302571)

☒ Sustainable Campus Environment Fee (303692)

Funding Amount: \$10,000.00

Receiving Campus Unit: vermiCULTure (RSO)/iSEE

Unit Financial Contact: Jenny Kokini

E-mail: jkokini@illinois.edu

Project Description:

VermiCULTure aims to provide both vermicomposting kits and educational materials to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus community. The education materials convey the importance of vermicomposting, which is the product of earthworm digestion and aerobic decomposition of food waste, and general food waste management. This project is needed on campus since there is currently no community level option for sustainable food waste disposal. The only recycling or waste management option in Urbana-Champaign is the Landscape Recycling Center, but they don't accept food waste and require payment to give materials. Moreover, there are no organizations, RSOs, or larger campus efforts in the area to compost, much less vermicompost.

This proposal directly funds:

1. 50 Worm bins @ \$100 (Total: \$5,000)
2. 50 mini trowels (Total: \$200)
3. 25 Fiberglass adjustable screen mesh (Total: \$375)
4. 50 Organic soil (Total: \$275)
5. 50 8-quart coconut coir moisture control (Total: \$125)
6. 50 Spray bottles (Total: \$500)
7. 50,000 Worms (Total: \$2,500) (1,000 worms/bin)
8. Miscellaneous (e.g. distribution event logistics cost, event materials such as tables, estimate for one event: \$100, advertising) Total: \$500
9. Premium social media/website plans to promote educational materials: \$100



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10. Printing supplies for pamphlets, instructions on howto assemble kits, etc.: \$50

Total: \$9,625